Federal Communications Commission 45 L Street NE Washington, DC 20554

News Media Information 202-418-0500 Internet: <u>www.fcc.gov</u> TTY: 888-835-5322

DA 23-1035

Released: November 2, 2023

THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION AND U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES ANNOUNCE NOVEMBER 17, 2023 ROUNDTABLE ON THE CONNECTED FUTURE OF MATERNITY CARE: INTERSECTING MATERNAL HEALTH AND BROADBAND DATA

GN Docket No. 23-309

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in partnership with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services today announced a joint Roundtable titled *The Connected Future of Maternity Care: Intersecting Maternal Health and Broadband Data*. The hybrid event will be held November 17, 2023, from 10:30am—4:00pm EST at FCC Headquarters and will be streamed online at www.fcc.gov/live.

The Roundtable will gather public and private sector thought leaders from a variety of disciplines on the front lines of the maternal health crisis, including telecommunications, public health, research, and data analytics experts, to explore the intersection of broadband connectivity and maternal health. Participants will also explore the role of broadband as a social determinant of health and the implications of this framework to improve maternal health outcomes and inform broadband and health policies. Improving maternal health equity through increased access to broadband-enabled health technologies, tools, and solutions is a critical priority and will be an overarching theme of the event. Finally, participants will help accelerate a cross-agency, cross-sector dialogue on more fully leveraging broadband to help address the maternal health crisis facing our nation. An agenda for the Roundtable will be released separately.

The Roundtable complements the Commission's ongoing work at the intersection of broadband connectivity and maternal health, including a June 2023 update to the <u>Mapping Broadband Health in America</u> platform, which now includes maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity data, and allows users to visualize the intersection of connectivity and maternal health at the county level. In addition, on October 19, 2023, the Commission adopted a <u>Notice of Inquiry</u> to solicit public input on future enhancements to the mapping platform, and the Commission's efforts to leverage broadband to address the maternal health crisis. Public comments can be submitted in GN Docket No. 23-309.

WHAT: Interagency Roundtable: The Connected Future of Maternity Care:

Intersecting Maternal Health and Broadband Data

WHEN: Friday, November 17, 2023, from 10:30am—4:00pm EST

WHERE: The Roundtable is a hybrid event. Attendees can join either in-person at

the Commission Meeting Room, FCC Headquarters, 45 L Street NE,

Washington, D.C., or via livestream at www.fcc.gov/live.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND: Policymakers, public health experts, clinicians, researchers, community

organizations, innovators, telecommunications and broadband service providers, and other people interested in the intersection of broadband

and maternal health.

ATTENDANCE:

This Roundtable is open to the public and will be available via live feed from the FCC's web page at www.fcc.gov/live. In-person event attendees are advised to bring a driver's license or other valid identification and to arrive approximately 30 minutes prior to the start of the Roundtable to allow sufficient time to go through security. Additional requirements related to visiting the FCC's facility may be provided to in-person attendees after registration. You may attend in person or via the webcast; preregistration is encouraged for both. Please pre-register by completing the registration form no later than November 15, 2023. The Roundtable will be recorded and publicly available at https://www.fcc.gov/news-events/events/archived and at https://fcc.gov/health after the event.

ACCESSIBILITY:

Open captioning will be provided for this event. Reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. Request for such accommodations should be submitted via email to fcc504@fcc.gov or by calling the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice). Such requests should include a detailed description of the accommodation needed. In addition, please include a way for the Commission to contact the requester if more information is needed to fill the request. Last minute requests will be accepted, but it may not be possible to accommodate the request.

The Connect2Health^{FCC} Task Force is a senior-level, multi-disciplinary team designed to move the needle on broadband and advanced health care technologies. Recognizing that technology innovations in clinical practice and care delivery are fundamentally changing the face of health care, the Task Force is charged with exploring the intersection of broadband, advanced technology, and health. Additional information about the Task Force and its innovative work is available at www.fcc.gov/health.

For additional information or questions, contact the Connect2Health^{FCC} Task Force by email at engageC2H@fcc.gov and insert "Roundtable Question" in the subject line. For press inquiries, please contact Katie Gorscak, FCC Office of Media Relations, by email at Katie.Gorscak@fcc.gov.

-FCC-